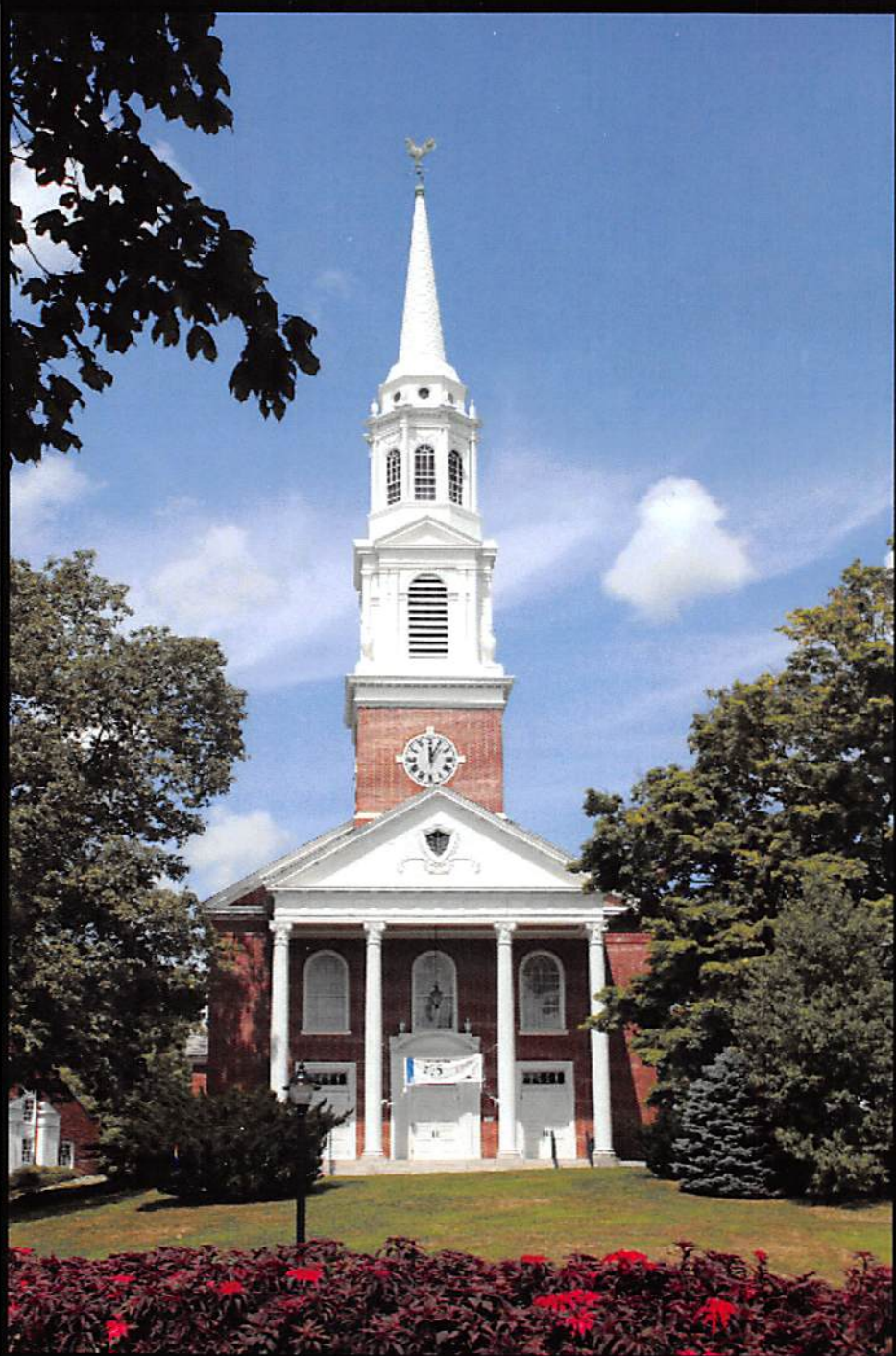


Connecticut Genealogy News

For Those Who Pursue Their Family Heritage

Spring 2020

Vol. 13 No. 1



In This Issue...

*In Memoriam, Helen S. Coty,
CSG # 553L*

Spotlight on Mansfield

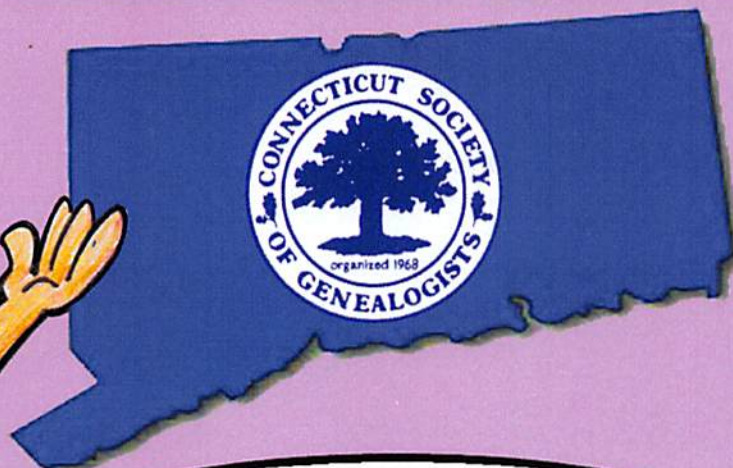
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Commentary

President's Message	2
Editorial	3
About the Cover	3

Features

In Memoriam, Former CSG President, Helen S. Coty, CSG # 553L	4
Spotlight on Mansfield	5

News

Upcoming Events Calendar	13
CSG News	14
Program Flyers	15
2020 Annual Meeting	16

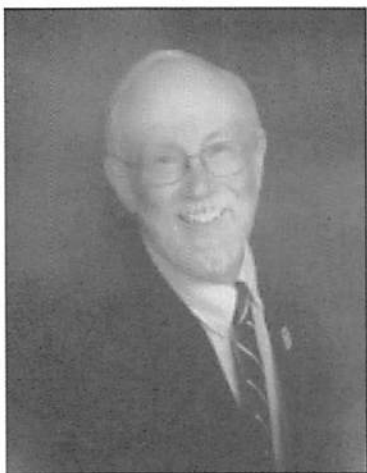
More Features

Book Reviews	17
Genealogy and Experience	18
2020 Literary Awards Contest Rules and Entry Form	23
2020 "Tell Your Family Story" Essay Contest Rules and Entry Form	25
Donors	27
Advertisements	28



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President's Message



I can still remember riding with my parents and grandmother as a child to decorate the graves of relatives with flowers, a tradition our family still maintains. And I still recall marching in Glastonbury's annual Memorial Day parades as a Cub Scout. The evening before Memorial Day, one

parade formed in South Glastonbury and marched to Still Hill, where veterans had laid wreaths. On Memorial Day itself, a parade formed behind Academy School, winding its way through the center of town and then back to the old cemetery on the Green, behind the Old Town Hall. There was always a speaker (I distinctly remember an address by Ex-Governor Raymond Baldwin), and World War I vets would sell hand-made poppies. The band would play another march or two and "The Star-Spangled Banner," a color guard would fire a salute, and two trumpeters would play "Taps."

In the cemetery, among the ancient headstones -- mostly red sandstone -- were tiny American flags. Despite the stirring patriotic music, the speeches, and the ceremony, my mind, as a Cub Scout, kept wandering what did all those little flags mean?

Over the years, after marching in many additional Memorial Day parades with the Junior High and High School bands, playing stirring marches such as "Americans We" and "The Stars and Stripes Forever," and listening to many other speakers, I came to understand why the flags were there. And after serving in Vietnam, seeing all those flags in cemeteries became even more meaningful to me. But it wasn't until many more years had passed until that I began to realize what Memorial Day is truly all about.

Although some Memorial Day speakers seem to use the occasion to celebrate the service of all who served or are still serving their country through military service, the holiday originated following the Civil War to remember and honor those who died in that war. There are conflicting stories as where and when observances

began, with several towns, north and south, claiming the distinction. In the south, the first Confederate Memorial Day was apparently held April 26, 1866, coinciding with the first anniversary of anniversary of Confederate General Joseph Eggleston Johnston's surrender to Union General William Tecumseh Sherman. Later, southern states set their own dates of observance, some selecting Robert E. Lee's birthday, others Jefferson Davis' birthday, and still others the anniversary of General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's death.

In the north, the day of remembrance was generally known as Decoration Day. The major impetus came with a General Order by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, proclaiming that:

The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet church-yard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

Let us, then, at the time appointed gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of spring-time; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us a sacred charge upon a nation's gratitude, the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

By 1890, Decoration Day was an official state holiday in every northern state. Later, following the Spanish-American War and World War I, Decoration Day became an occasion to honor all Americans who have died in all wars. And by the mid-20th century, Memorial Day had also become a day for more general expressions of memorial.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines "memorial" in several ways, including, "preserving the memory of a person or thing;" "the perpetuated knowledge or recollection (of something); remembrance,

recollection;" and "something by which the memory of a person, thing, or event is preserved, as a monument, a custom, or an observance." And so, with those definitions in mind, for me, Memorial Day has come to be associated with and connected, in part, to family history.

From the time our children were young, our family spent part of each Memorial Day weekend visiting and placing flowers at the graves of ancestors going back several generations and sharing stories with them about the people buried beneath each stone. Now our children are grown, but it was an especially poignant moment last year when some of our grandchildren helped us with the planting and one exclaimed, "That person had the

same name as me!" I hope that this Memorial Day you too will be able to set aside some time between picnics and going to movies to attend a parade or Memorial Day observance. "Strew with flowers" the graves of loved ones. Spend some time discovering where earlier ancestors are buried and pause to remember the lives of your ancestors. And as you come across tiny American flags in a cemetery, give thanks for those who fell in service to our country.

~ Richard C. Roberts, President

Editorial

In this issue, we announce the passing of a dear CSG Life Member, Helen S. Coty. She supported and encouraged me when I first started to work at CSG over 14 years ago and I will never forget her. She will be missed.

We are shining our spotlight on the Connecticut Town of Mansfield in this issue. Thank you to Dick Roberts and Keith Wilson, for the very informative article and all the great pictures.

Thank you once again to Justin Piccirillo for his insights into genealogy in "Genealogy and the Experience."

You won't want to miss any of the upcoming programs. They promise to be very informative.

We do apologize that the 2019 Literary Awards Book Reviews did not appear in this issue. They will be published in the next issue.

~ Stephanie Hyland, Editor

About the Cover

The history of the Storrs Congregational Church begins in 1737 when the General Assembly authorized formation of the Second Ecclesiastical Society in North Mansfield. Its parent church was the First Congregational Church of Mansfield. On October 21, 1921 the church was incorporated as the Storrs Congregational Church.

The first meeting house was built in 1745-6, located approximately where the present church, constructed in 1927, now stands. The tracker organ in the sanctuary was completed in 1981, and the sanctuary was renovated in 1986-7 during the 250th anniversary of the church. The University's Austin Cornelius Dunham Carillon in the tower, commissioned in 1930, was refurbished in 2011 and expanded with additional bells.

The Parish House was erected in 1926 with statewide contributions and donations by individuals, groups, and churches starting the tradition of a community gathering place. The Education Building and Waggoner Chapel were completed in 1960.

Over the years the church has opened its facilities to services by Jewish, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, and Lutheran groups, and most recently to the Storrs Korean Church. Until 1932 the church provided religious education with college credit for students and until 1960 the minister served as college chaplain.

Photo by Richard C. Roberts

In Memoriam

Former CSG President, Helen S. Coty, CSG # 553L



CSG recently received word of the passing of Helen S. Coty on May 14, 2019 at the age of 85. Helen served on the CSG Board of Governors from 1991-2009. During that time, she was Vice President from 1996-1998, President from 1998-2000, and Secretary from 2002-2009. She

was chair of and served on many committees, most notably as the Chair the Executive, Nominating, and Program/Education Committees. She was a member of the Book Review, Literary Awards, Editorial Committee for *The Connecticut Nutmegger*, Publicity and Strategic Planning committees. Helen was a steady presence on the CSG Board, but was not afraid to quietly voice her opinion, and always with a smile.

Her formal obituary found in *The Record-Journal* reads, in part, that she was the beloved wife of the late William E. Coty. She was the oldest of five children, to the late Dwight and Delphine (Williams) Schuyler and grew up on her family's farm in Marcellus, New York.

She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from The State University of New York Teachers College at Oswego. After teaching kindergarten in upstate New York and starting their family, Bill and Helen relocated to Wallingford, Connecticut in 1962 and called the town "home" for the remainder of their years.

The quintessential mother of two, Helen was known by family and friends for her signature homemade treats like brownies and "Scotcheroos," (a particular neighborhood favorite) and her talent for sewing. A voracious reader, Helen made frequent trips to Wallingford's Public Library to ensure she would never be without a story to read.

A family friend introduced Helen to Wallingford's Senior Center, and she joined their quilting group. For close to 20 years, this group of "quilting ladies" became

Helen's special friends, and she looked forward to her Tuesday afternoons at the center with her friends. In addition to her quilting group, Helen was a member of the 60 Plus Club and participated in many of the center's activities.

Family was always first for Helen, both past and present. She assumed the role of family historian, tracing her family's roots back more than 10 generations. Helen was a member of the Daughters' of the American Revolution's Ruth Hart Chapter and served as Connecticut's State Treasurer.

Always ready to lend a helping hand and offer support, Helen assisted many individuals over the years manage their special health circumstances through her work with the Meriden Middlesex Ostomy Chapter-an organization that she also served as president for many years.

Helen is survived by her two children and their spouses, Thomas and Phan Coty, of Burke, Virginia, and Kathy and Ray Bauer, of Northford, Connecticut; two grandsons, Christopher Coty, of Burke, Virginia, and Jason Coty, of Watervliet, New York; and two brothers, Charles Schuyler, of Marcellus, New York, and James Schuyler, of East Syracuse, New York. Helen was predeceased by her sister, Mary Lavender; and brother, Edward Schuyler.

CSG extends to all of Helen's family and friends, sincere sympathies on her passing.

To view the full obituary, go to: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/record-journal/obituary.aspx?n=helen-s-coty&pid=192920377&fhid=6836>.



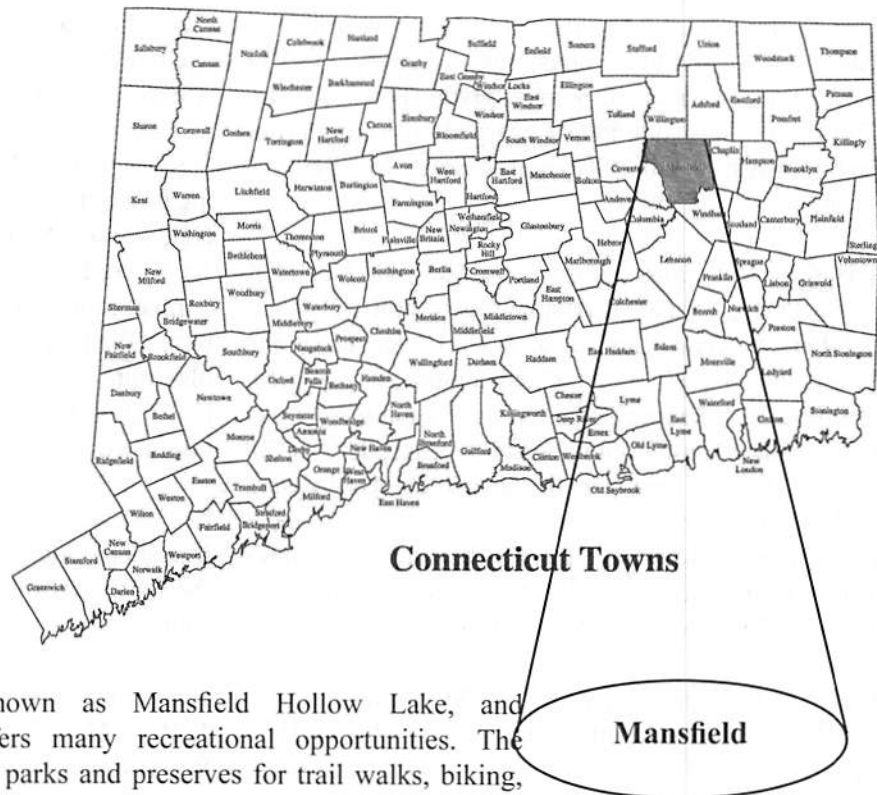
Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



Spotlight on Mansfield

by *Richard C. Roberts,*
CSG # 8680 and
Keith E. Wilson, CSG # 4186

Mansfield includes some 20 villages, many with names such as Atwoodville, Conantville, Gurlayville, and Merrow that reflect its industrial past. However, perhaps the best known is Storrs, home to the main campus of the University of Connecticut. In 1949 construction began on the Mansfield Hollow Dam, resulting in the demolition of many houses in that area. However, the dam's completion in 1952 resulted in the creation of Naubesatuck Lake, better known as Mansfield Hollow Lake, and Mansfield Hollow State Park offers many recreational opportunities. The Town of Mansfield has twenty-nine parks and preserves for trail walks, biking, kayaking and many other activities.



EARLY HISTORY

Mansfield was settled in 1690 as part of Windham. The land was part of a large tract that had been divided among sixteen legatees of Joshua, third son of Mohegan Sachem Uncas, according to the terms of his will. The legatees were Captain John Mason, Lieutenant Samuel Mason, Lieutenant Daniel Mason (sons of Major John Mason, who had defeated the Pequots at Mystic in May 1637), Reverend James Fitch, Major John Fitch, John Birchard, Thomas Tracey, Thomas Adgate, Lieutenant Thomas Leffingwell, John Olmstead, Simon Huntington, William Hyde, William Backus, Hugh Calkins, Captain George Denison and Daniel Wetherell. Each share was to be one thousand acres, including a house lot and portions of meadow, pasture, and upland. The allotments were established in 1686, and three of the legatees, John Mason, William Hyde and John Olmstead were deceased and represented by their heirs. Captain John Mason commanded a company in King Philip's War at the Great Swamp Fight in Narragansett (now South Kingstown), Rhode Island. He was seriously wounded on 16 December 1675 and was brought back to New London, where he died of his wounds on 18 September 1676.

The Native Americans had referred to the area that became Mansfield as Naubesatuck; early English settlers called it "Ponde Place". In 1685 and 1686, a highway was laid out from Hither Place (now Windham Center) to Ponde Place. Twenty-one house lots were laid out in Ponde Place (Mansfield Center) along Town Street (now Storrs Road or Route 195), a length of 1.4 miles. The original road was eight rods wide, or 132 feet, which

allowed it to be used for a variety of purposes. Unlike most Connecticut towns, Mansfield never had a town green. Each original house lot was wide and deep, twenty to twenty-four- and one-half rods wide by forty rods deep. Nineteen of the house lots were on the east side of Town Street. Two of the house lots were on the west side of the road, together with meadow, pasture and upland lots associated with each house lot.

The proprietors began selling house lots beginning in 1688. In 1692, there were three residents in Ponde Place, Jonathan Hough (house lot No. 15), elected as one of three townsmen; Samuel Hyde (house lot No. 17), one of four individuals charged with laying out the highways; and John Royce, (house lot No. 20), surveyor.

A 1693 town meeting approved five new inhabitants of Ponde Place: Samuel Birchard, son of Norwich legatee; John Birchard (house lot No. 21); Robert Wade (house lot No. 14); Peter Cross (house lot No. 16); Sam Linkon/Lincoln (house lot No. 19); and John Arnold, a schoolmaster from Norwich (house lot No. 7). In 1695, Robert Fenton built the first bridge crossing the Natchaug River into the today's Town of Windham and bought house lot No. 2 the following year. James Bradford and Benjamin Armstrong purchased house lots No. 13 and No. 4 in Ponde Place.

Joseph Hall, baptized in Yarmouth, Massachusetts on 3 July 1642, was the fourth of twelve sons of John Hall, who immigrated from Coventry, Warwickshire, England. Joseph purchased house lot No. 5 in 1694 and his brothers, William, Benjamin, and Isaac followed him to Mansfield and settled there also. William was known as Captain William Hall, and he purchased house lot No. 12. Nathaniel Bassett from Yarmouth, Massachusetts settled in Ponde Place in 1696 (house lot No. 3). Joshua and John Allen, Samuel Gifford and Robert Smith also arrived in 1696.

Samuel Storrs was baptized at Sutton-Cum-Lound, Warwickshire, England, son of Thomas and Mary (____) Storrs. He was in Barnstable, Massachusetts by 1663 and married Mary Huckins there on 6 December 1666. She was baptized in Barnstable 29 March 1646, daughter of Thomas Huckins of Barnstable. Mary was the mother of seven of Samuel Storrs's children, and she died in Barnstable 24 September 1683. Samuel mar-

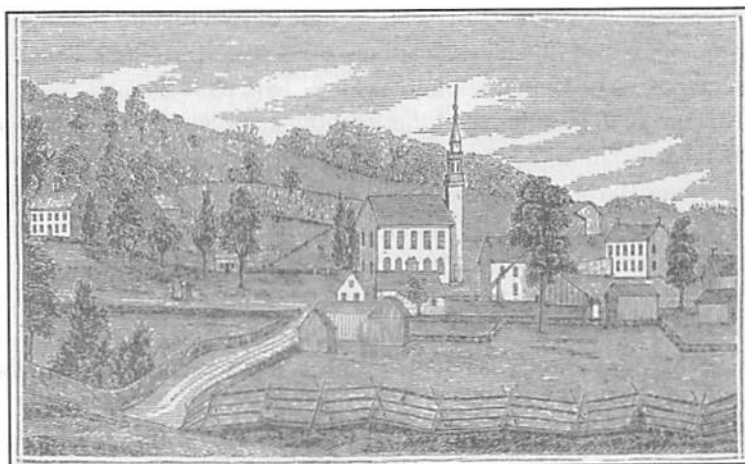
ried (2) Widow Hester/Esther Asgard in Barnstable on 14 September 1685. Three more children were born to this marriage. Samuel Storrs purchased house lots No. 9 and 10 at Ponde Place in 1698.

The difficulties in traversing the distances between Ponde Place and Hither Place resulted in a vote at a 1702 Town Meeting to petition the General Court to grant the residents the authority to establish separate townships. In May of 1703, Ponde Place was incorporated as a separate town, named for Major Moses Mansfield of New Haven who had recently defeated Native Americans in the area during King Philip's War.

On 20 October the charter was granted to the following proprietors: Shubael Dimock, Joseph Hall, William Hall, Samuel Storrs, Kenelm Winslow, Robert Fenton, Nathaniel Bassett, John Arnold, Benjamin Armstrong, Samuel Storrs, Jr., Joseph Holmes, Mary Dunham, Susanna Wade, Peter Crane, Samuel Fuller, Allyn Nichols, John Davis, John Royce, Samuel Bliss, Joshua Allyn, Samul Lincoln, John Gorum, Issac Chapman, and "sundry other persons not named in the charter."

In 1704, during Queen Anne's War, the new Town of Mansfield voted to fortify the houses of Joseph Hall on the north end of Town Street and Peter Cross on the south.

The First Ecclesiastical Society was established in 1710 in Mansfield Center. The first minister was the Rev. Eleazer Williams; he was succeeded by the Rev. Richard Salter. In 1754 the original meetinghouse was replaced by a new building (seen in an 1836 illustration by John Warner Barber).



Mansfield Center 1836

In October 1737 the General Assembly approved formation of a second society in the northerly part of the town, and on 1 December of that year the church in the north society (now the Storrs Congregational Church) was incorporated. Prior to his death in 1795, Deacon Benjamin Chaplin of the North Society, who had found it difficult to travel from his home to church, bequeathed money toward the formation of a third ecclesiastical society and the building a meeting house within a mile and a quarter of his home. In 1822, the residents of the Chaplin Ecclesiastical Society petitioned the General Assembly to split off from Mansfield, and on July 4 of that year Chaplin was incorporated as a separate town, named in honor of Deacon Chaplin.

When Windham County was formed on 12 May 1726, Mansfield became part of that county. Almost a hundred years later, at a town meeting held on 3 April 1826, it was voted that the selectmen petition the General Assembly to annex Mansfield to Tolland County; legislation was passed by the Assembly the following year.

MANSFIELD IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

On October 10, 1774, over a year before the Declaration of Independence was approved in Philadelphia, the Mansfield Town Meeting adopted a "Declaration of Freedom" defending with "our Lives and Fortunes our natural and Constitutional Rights." Mansfield sent 262 men to the Continental Armies as well as providing supplies and ammunition.

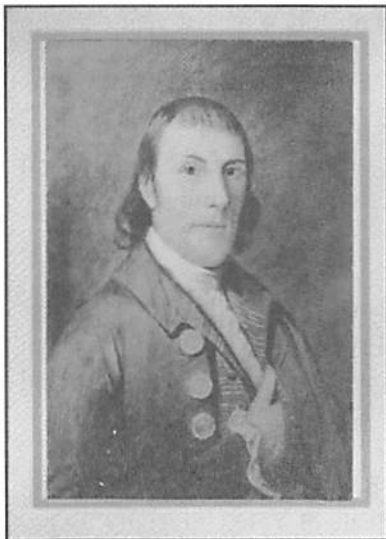
Huckins Storrs, a grandson of Samuel Storrs, bought lots 13 and 14 in 1753. He built a house there and several years later sold both lots and the house to his son, Experience Storrs. A 1759 graduate of Yale University, Experience Storrs was commissioned as a Captain of the Second Company of the Fifth Regiment by the Connecticut General Assembly. He drilled his soldiers on the field that is between his house (now known as the Col. Experience Storrs house) and the Old Mansfield Center Cemetery. When news of the Lexington Alarm was received, he immediately issued orders to his company to assemble to march to the defense of Boston. On 29 March 1775, he marched his soldiers to Cambridge, where they participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill on 17 June 1775. Experience Storrs was second in command of the 3rd Regiment under General Israel Putnam at Bunker Hill and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. In May of 1777, he was commissioned in the rank of Colonel.



Colonel Experience Storrs House

EARLY INDUSTRIES

The rivers and their tributaries that flow through Mansfield made it a prime location for the establishment of water powered mills. About 1760 Nathaniel Aspinwall planted a mulberry orchard and two years later brought the first silkworm eggs to the town. By 1800 three quarters of Mansfield's families were raising silkworms, and several silk mills were erected.



Colonel Benjamin Hanks

Colonel Benjamin Hanks (1755-1824) was a maker of clocks and instruments, and brass cannons and was the first founder of church bells in the United States. He operated his foundry on Hanks Hill Road in Mansfield as early as 1785. Later he moved to upstate New York, where Andrew Meneely, a former apprentice, took over the business.

Rodney and Horatio Hanks built the first water-powered silk mill in 1810. In 1930 it was purchased by Henry Ford and moved to the Greenfield Village Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

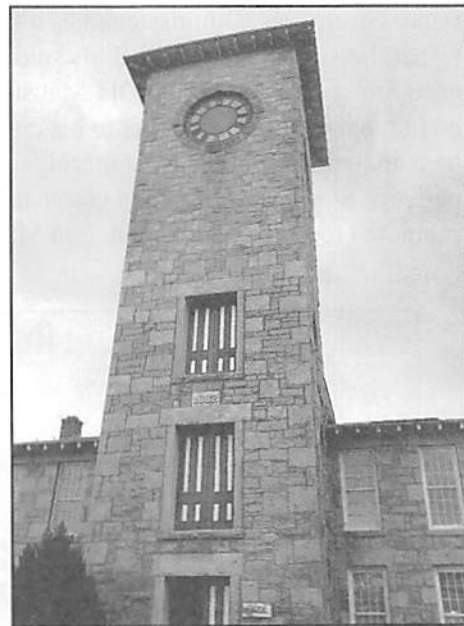
Ephraim Gurley had a trip hammer shop in the ravine near Ravine and Bone Mill Roads in northwestern Mansfield. He sold it in 1794 and moved to the area now called Gurleyville after him. Ephraim constructed a new trip hammer shop on the Fenton River and built steelyards, augers, bayonets and other metal implements.

The Gurleyville Grist Mill

The original building was built in 1750, and it is the only stone grist mill in Connecticut. The miller's cottage was the birthplace of Gov. Wilbur Cross, who served four two-year terms from 1931-39. His father was the miller at the Grist Mill. The mill is an example of early industry in the region.

The Kirby Mill

In 1838 Edwin Fitch built a silk mill for Zalman Storrs which ran for several years under different owners. In 1882 the National Thread Company erected a stone mill on the site for finishing cotton thread. It was sold to George Kirby in 1902, who manufactured optical goods and brass items there.



Kirby Mill

The Conantville Mill

In 1852 Joseph Conant built a small silk mill and dye house which changed ownership and was enlarged over the years. Max Pollack & Company produced cotton thread there until the 1940s. The building last saw use as the Shaboo Inn, which operated there from 1971 until May 1982.



Shaboo Inn - Photo courtesy of Bruce John

In October 1971, the Shaboo was opened by siblings from two Mansfield families, David and Mark Foster, and Bruce, Gary, and Keri John. Initially expected to attract students from the University of Connecticut and Eastern Connecticut State University to see local bands, it soon became the hottest club in the North-

east. The location in Mansfield made it a popular stop for bands playing in the New York City to Boston circuit. Established and upcoming rock bands from England and the United States played at the Shaboo. In order to widen its audience appeal, Blues, Jazz, Folk, Funk, Bluegrass, Country and Punk bands were booked. A generation was able to experience the masters of the Chicago Blues, pioneers of Bluegrass and so much more - this was an education of a different sort! It was a sad day when the Shaboo Inn burned to the ground in August of 1982. David Foster, Bruce John and their families have carried the spirit of the Shaboo Inn forward by supporting uncounted charitable endeavors to benefit Mansfield and the surrounding communities over many decades.

FAMOUS CITIZENS

Wilbur Lucius Cross

Wilbur Lucius Cross (10 April 1862-5 October 1948) taught school and was a principal in Westport prior to becoming an English professor at Yale in 1894. He served as Connecticut's Governor from 1931 to 1939. During his tenure he worked toward the repeal of Prohibition and presided over the state's Tercentenary Celebration. Wilbur Cross High School in New Haven, Wilbur Cross School in Bridgeport, the Wilbur Cross Highway, and the University of Connecticut's former library were named for him.

George Freeman

George Freeman painted miniature portraits on ivory and porcelain. He was permitted to paint Queen Victoria and Prince Albert from life.

Charles and Augustus Storrs

Augustus Storrs and his brother Charles grew up on the family farm in North Mansfield, but both became successful Brooklyn, New York businessmen. Early in his career Charles sold silk manufactured in Mansfield to merchants throughout New England. In 1850, at age 28, he became a partner in a Brooklyn manufacturing firm. After it failed in 1854, he and his brothers Augustus and Royal opened their own business.

In December 1880 Charles and Augustus donated \$5,000 and 170 acres for the purpose of establishing an agricultural school in North Mansfield which opened on 28 September 1881 with 12 students in attendance. From those beginnings, over the years it has been trans-

formed into today's University of Connecticut with over 19,000 undergraduates on the main campus.

Charles had a great interest in his family's heritage and in 1886 published a genealogy, *The Storrs Family: Genealogical and Other Memoranda*. (He also replaced original eighteenth century headstones of his male ancestors with granite markers, preserving useful genealogical information but destroying irreplaceable folk art.)

Charles died at his home in Brooklyn in 1884. Augustus continued to spend his summers in Mansfield, where he died in 1892. In 1864 Charles and Augustus had deeded land along North Eagleville Road to the town for the establishment of what became New Storrs Cemetery. The imposing obelisk at the top of the hill marks the burial place of Charles, Augustus, and other family members.

Frederic William Swift

Frederic W. Swift was born 30 January 1831 in Mansfield to Dr. Earl and Laura (Ripley) Swift. He was a 31-year-old resident of Detroit, Michigan on 20 July 1862 when he enlisted as a Captain in Co. F of the 17th Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on 26 November 1863 and placed in command of the regiment. Frederic Swift was taken prisoner at Spotsylvania, Virginia on 12 May 1864 and returned to the regiment on 3 August 1864. He was promoted to Colonel on 4 December 1864 and to Brevet Brigade General, U. S. Volunteers on 13 March 1865 for gallant and meritorious conduct during the war. He was mustered out 3 June 1865 at Delaney House, Washington, D.C. Frederic W. Swift was presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor for his action on 16 November 1863 at Lenoire Station, Tennessee. The citation states: Gallantly seized the colors and rallied the regiment after 3 color bearers had been shot and the regiment, having become demoralized, was in imminent danger of capture.

Peter Halsten Thorkelson

Known professionally as Peter Tork, Thorkelson (13 February 1942 – 21 February 2019), was best known as the keyboardist and bass guitarist of the Monkees. He grew up in Mansfield and was a member of the first class to graduate from E. O. Smith High School. Following the deaths of his parents, he continued to own a historic house at the corner of Wormwood Hill and Mount Hope Roads.

Daniel Welch

Daniel Welch, son of Thomas and Hannah (Abbe) Welch, was born in Windham 20 March 1725/6. He studied divinity at Yale College, graduating in 1749, and was licensed to preach by the Windham Association of Ministers on 15 May 1750. He preached briefly at Abington before serving as a supply preacher in North Mansfield. On 11 November 1751 he was called to serve as minister of the North Parish church. He was ordained and installed as pastor on 29 January 1752, beginning a 30-year ministry, the third longest in the life of the church. He was taken ill while conducting worship on 28 April 1782 and died early the following day at the age of 56.

Edwin and Edwina Whitney

An ongoing relationship with students began in the North Parish of Mansfield after Edwin Whitney opened a grammar school. In 1860 Edwin Whitney married Minerva Barrows, daughter of Deacon Salmon Barrows of the North Mansfield church. He bought his father-in-law's farm, enlarged the house and rearranged it as a school. After a fire destroyed the school in April 1866, he began constructing what was to become the Connecticut Soldiers Orphans Home – and later “Old Whitney Hall” of the Storrs Agricultural School. The Orphans' Home operated from 1866 to 1875 on the southwest corner of what is now known as Storrs Road (Route 195) and North Eagleville Road, across the street from the Storrs Congregational Church. In 1881, it became the first academic building of the newly established Storrs Agricultural School (now the University of Connecticut).



Whitney House

Edwin Whitney was a member of the Second Ecclesiastical Society, its clerk, a member of the church, and a deacon. His daughter, Edwina Whitney, born 26 February 1868, six months after her father's death, attended Northfield Seminary and graduated from Oberlin College in 1894. She served as college librarian for many years. Organist, clerk, deaconess, church schoolteacher, historian, and librarian were just some of the rolls she filled at the church. Edwina Whitney Residence Hall on the University of Connecticut Campus is named for her.

The Whitney family's house was built about 1769. Purchased by what by what was then known as the Connecticut Agricultural College, it still stands near Mirror Lake on the UConn campus.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS



The Fitch House

Mansfield has three local Historic Districts, located at Mansfield Center, Mansfield Hollow, and Spring Hill. See <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1522/Historic-District-Commission> for links to descriptions of each district and listings of the properties. The Mansfield Center Historic District includes two significant structures designed by master builder/architect Edwin Sullivan Fitch (1812-1875) Fitch, an orphan from Windham:

The “Fitch House”

Hoping to impress the father of Alice Adams, Ewin Fitch built the beautiful Greek Revival house that still stands at 563 Storrs Road. He and Alice were

married on September 6, 1836. Since 1995 the “Fitch Hose” has served as a bread and breakfast and site for events such as bridal showers, rehearsal dinners, and graduation parties.



Spring Hill Inn

Altnaveigh Inn (now Spring Hill Inn)

In 1716, John Sargent purchased one hundred twenty acres on Spring Hill from Thomas Huntington. After his eldest son, Isaac Sargent, was married, he gave him the Spring Hill acreage with all the buildings, fruit trees, etc. Isaac Sargent is believed to have constructed the building now known as the Spring Hill Inn before his 1742 death. In 1794, the Sargent family sold the property to Dan Storrs and he sold it to Azariah Freeman the following year. The farm was operated by the Freeman family from 1795 to 1908. The Altnaveigh Inn and Restaurant opened in 1951 and was well known in the area for its ambiance and great food. In 2016, the Altnaveigh closed and it is now the Spring Hill Inn.

First Church of Christ

After the second meetinghouse was destroyed by fire, the current building, designed by Edwin Fitch in the Italianate style, was constructed in 1866. Its facade features arched windows influenced by Italian Romanesque churches. The current steeple is a replacement, erected after the original was destroyed in the 1938 hurricane.



First Church of Christ

CEMETERIES

The Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions includes information taken from headstones in 23 Mansfield cemeteries. In 2008 Eric Jon Reynolds of Boy Scout Troop 56 prepared a database and maps identifying the approximate locations of veterans’ graves in the following cemeteries: Atwoodville; B’Naith Israel, Agudath Achim, Hillel; Durkee; Gurley; Gurleyville; Mount Hope; New Mansfield; New Storrs; Old Mansfield; Old Storrs; Parker; Old Gurley (“Pink Ravine”); Pleasant Valley; Ridges; Spring Hill; Tilden; and Wormwood Hill. A copy of his report is held by the Mansfield Historical Society.



Storrs Monument with Captain William and Esther Hall headstones in front.

Mansfield Center Burying Ground

In 1703, William Hall gave a piece of his land for a burying ground in Ponde Place. Today known as the Old Mansfield Center Cemetery, it is the oldest in Tolland County and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. It includes markers carved by many prominent eighteenth-century Eastern Connecticut carvers for members of Mansfield's early families. The headstones of Captain William Hall and his wife, Hester are directly in front of the Storrs Family monument.

Old Gurley ("Pink Ravine") Burying Ground

This cemetery on Ravine Road near the Bone Mill was referred to by Charles Storrs as "the oldest burying ground in North Mansfield" and probably dates to about 1744. It is often referred to as the Pink Ravine Cemetery after the many patches of creeping phlox that bloom there in the spring.

Old Storrs Burying Ground

This historic burying ground, the property of and located behind the Storrs Congregational Church (corner of North Eagleville Rd and Route 195), includes the gravestones of many ancestors of Charles and Augustus Storrs, who grew up across the street from this cemetery and who, in 1881, deeded land nearby for what eventually became the University of Connecticut. While here, be sure to look at the many interesting old gravestones including those of the Rev. Daniel Welch, an early minister of the church, and his wife, Martha. The older part of the cemetery is laid out in typical colonial fashion, with graves marked by stones both at the head and at the foot.



Old Mansfield Center Cemetery



Old Storrs Burying Ground

For additional information on Mansfield's cemeteries, see <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1723/Cemeteries-in-Mansfield>.

Continued on page 20

Book Reviews

***How to Find Your Family History in U. S. Church Records: A Genealogists Guide*, by Sunny Jane Morton and Harold A. Henderson, CG, published by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore Maryland. Soft cover, ISBN: 978-0-8063-2095-3, Library of Congress catalog card number 201-994-0012, 143 pages.**

These two authors have extensive genealogical-related backgrounds, and their book tells all. This extremely organized volume of 143 pages is packed with amazing information and a complete index. It brings the reader step-by-step through identifying their ancestor's church, whether he or she was religious, and then locating and accessing the records, even locating records of a closed parish.

The first five chapters (Part One) outline the importance of church records and the information contained within. Also included is a sample letter and tips for respectfully requesting religious records from church offices that are more than likely understaffed or even staffed by volunteers. Specific websites are scattered through the pages, suggesting where to search for online church records. Each of the last 12 chapters (Part Two) gives background information for each major denomination, its ethnic origins, how to access members' records, and a list for further reading.

Everyone with an interest in genealogy, from beginners to the experienced researcher, will want to own this outstanding reference. It contains historical and other useful information that will never go out of date. This may just be the reference to break down your brick wall by guiding you to documents about your ancestors recorded long before the existence of civil records.

Diane McDermott LeMay, CSG # 7571L

***Thy Children's Children: A Novel*, by Diana Ross McCain. Published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Soft cover, ISBN: 978-1-5238-3700-7, 627 pages. Available on Amazon.com for \$19.95.**

Diana Ross McCain is well-known to Connecticut genealogists for her many years as a reference librarian at

the Connecticut Historical Society. Now an independent professional historian, Ross' first novel follows the family of John⁵ (Ebenezer⁴, Dea. Thomas³, Richard Jr.², Richard¹) Lyman and his wife Hope Hawley and their descendants from 1741 to 1871. On 14 March 1741 John Lyman purchased 36 acres of land with a "mansion house" from Ephraim Coe in what was then the southwest corner of Middletown, now Middlefield, Connecticut. On 6 April of that year his wife, Hope, purchased 25 additional acres directly west of the initial purchase. By 1760, they owned more than 187 acres. Today descendants operate Lyman Orchards, an agricultural/entertainment complex on 1,100 acres that includes the original land purchase of 1741.

John and Hope's children included Elihu and Phinehas Lyman, who served in the Revolutionary War. A grandson, William, was by 1830 an early advocate of the movement to abolish slavery and took part in the Underground Railroad, helping fugitive slaves seeking freedom in the North. In 1850 he and several other family members and local citizens denounced the Fugitive Slave Law in a letter published by the *Middletown Sentinel and Witness*. A granddaughter Esther (Lyman) Beecher was the mother of the Rev. Lyman Beecher and grandmother of clergyman and abolitionist Henry Ward Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Although this is a novel, Ross has clearly taken advantage of her extensive experience as a genealogical researcher. To breathe life into the Lyman family's experiences, while remaining as faithful to history as possible, McCain utilized historical records that sometimes even include family members' own words, as when in a 20 May 1778 petition to the Connecticut General Assembly Elihu Lyman reported that upon being captured he "was stripped naked by the Enemy," who not only confiscated his weapons, but also robbed him of his personal possessions including a silver watch and five silver dollars. This is a novel that once begun is hard to put down. Those seeking to take a break from pursuing their own family's heritage as well as all who share an interest in Connecticut history will want to own and devour it.

Richard C. Roberts, CSG # 8680

Genealogy and Experience

by Justin Piccirillo

When I was eighteen, I was the recipient of dozens of stories from my grandfather. Some were short, resembling somewhat more of a reminiscing rather than a story, but some were full of reenactments of yesteryear, usually from my grandfather's military days. I would have to say that although each account was remarkably accurate, there were times when a name or a date seemed to slip his mind.

This is how I caught the genealogy bug.

For every name or date he forgot, I was there to pick up the pieces for him. I would take notes - copious notes - and write down every word he spoke as I was determined to get those facts that eluded him. I went through the City Hall records, I pilfered through countless rolls of microfilmed newspapers at the library, and I even searched throughout entire cemeteries in order to help Pop with his recollections.

I was so young. But I learned. I learned as I went, and it didn't take me very long until I was making some headway and finding my way around these repositories.

As a newbie to the genealogy hobby, my curiosities peaked, soaring higher than one can imagine. I read books on it. I watched videos on it. I bought CD database after database, never really knowing what I was really doing, but watching and reviewing my research nonetheless.

My grandfather's forgetfulness opened my mind to a new world, and I wanted to know everything there was to know about it. As a novice, my only sights in my naïve tunnel vision were to put as many names onto my family pedigree charts as possible. To me, it was more about quantity rather than quality.

Unfortunately though for me, only a mere teenager, it took me quite some time to get over this fundamental hump. I really couldn't see the forest from the trees. All I cared about was a name to fill a spot on a chart. I became obsessed. Over the next few years, I had amassed more than 10,000 names. Yes, it was quite an undertaking, but I had done it and I had done it well.

Then something changed.

My interest in pre-dating history turned cold. I didn't care about reaching some golden number of individuals in my software program. Instead, I became hungry to give these characters some flesh to their name and date bones.

So, I challenged myself once again. I challenged myself to find out those suggesting questions: Why did my ancestor move there? How did they come to own this? I started asking questions that begged answers that needed to be researched deeper than a vital statistics register. I needed to find reasons to why my ancestors acted the way they did. And so, this is where I am today - still plugging along, and still trying to recreate my family one bone at a time.

As you can read, it has been a long, arduous road that I continue to walk. And you know what - I still have just as much fun digging, just as much fun researching, just as much fun listening to family lore as I did some two decades ago. And honestly, I just wouldn't have it any other way.

In my genealogical travels, I suppose I have learned a thing or two about success and experience in this hobby that I'd really like to pass on.

1. ***Learn your Library.*** This does not only pertain to your local library, but all of the other references you have available to you – books, magazines, videos, internet, social networks, etc., as well. In today’s world, where technology has really reinvented the how’s of researching one’s family tree, it is a must that each genealogist knows what is available to them.

2. ***Learn how to exhaust all document avenues and cite them.***

As I had experienced, where most novice genealogists are concerned for that name and date, it is a common hiccup to bypass other information that can lead you to further information. When researching, it would be a shame to miss an opportunity to follow up on a clue, such as a newspaper obituary or a probate record. *Every source will lead you to somewhere new!* It is up to you to know what research roads you have travelled and what is your next move.

3. ***Listen to others.***

Join a society. Read the online forums. Read the blogs and other social media. Attend a genealogy conference, or even a local class. Communicate with others. Surround yourself with wisdom. It will most definitely rub-off! This holds especially true with town clerks and historians. Listen to them. Especially in local repositories, these kind folks love talking about their collection, but even more so, they love solving family questions using their collection.

4. ***Keep at it.***

This one, I have found, is my personal toughie. For me, I have been plagued time and time again with ‘starting over’. After putting my genealogy down for a few months and trying to come back to it, I am each time confronted with the ominous, “Did I already do this?” Even with my relentless documenting of sources and reviewing my citations, I have been inconsistent in my research. I feel that when I put my work down for a period of time, I have to start over in earnest, remembering names, dates and, worse, reacquainting myself with these relatives.

5. ***Share.***

Help yourself, your family, your forebears and your descendants. Help your community and fellow genealogists, too. SHARE your work! Not only should we write down our findings and research for ourselves, but there is a world out there anxious to know about your family as well. I know that that may be hard to seem, as most likely, your family is really not much different than mine where, only a few members, at best, really want to know about our history. But, let’s face it. Let’s look at the greater picture. You are doing the work that will be cherished and praised for a lifetime or more. For one moment, be a relative looking for that last link to their fifth great-grandfather. Now, think about it. You hold the key, or shall I write, the document. I know. I have been there. Actually, I have been on both sides of that coin. But, how great is it to give that information up for the betterment of this hobby. Personally, I believe in karma, and what comes around will, in fact, go around.

Spotlight on Mansfield - Continued from page 12

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN MANSFIELD

Probate Records

Over the years, Mansfield has been served by several Probate Districts:

- May 1702 - October 1719, Hartford District
- October 1719 - May 29, 1831, Windham District
- May 30, 1831 - January 4, 2011, Mansfield District
- January 5, 2011 - Present, Mansfield - Tolland District, which serves the towns of Coventry, Mansfield, Tolland, and Willington. It is located at Town Hall, 21 Tolland Green, 2nd Floor., Tolland 06084-3028. Telephone (860) 871-3640. Hours are: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Probate Court record books, volumes 1-11, 1831-1918 are in the State Archives, Connecticut State Library and have been microfilmed. Access is also available at Family History Centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries.
- Probate files, 1831-1954 are held by the State Archives. Probate files, 1831-1915; and inventory control book ("Godard Digests") were microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah and are available for use in the History and Genealogy reading room or through FamilySearch.



Mansfield Town Hall

Town Hall Records

The Mansfield Town Hall is in the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, a former elementary school, at 4 South Eagleville Road. In order to research vital records, you will need a driver's license or other acceptable photo identification and you must present your Connecticut Society of Genealogists membership card or one from another genealogy society that is incorporated or authorized to do business in Connecticut. The Town Clerk and her staff are friendly, knowledgeable and most helpful. Land Records are available from 1702 to the present, and copies cost \$1.00 per page. Vital Record copies are \$20, and those records also date back to 1702.

The Town Clerk's vault has a variety of other

items of genealogical interest including cemetery burials and Mansfield Town Cemetery Sexton books, Tax Records, Town Meeting, and Miscellaneous records dating back to 1710, Colonial period listings of owner identification "ear marks" for animals, Property Maps, Veterans Burial Card Index and a Veterans Discharge Card index. You may contact the Town Clerk's office at 860-429-3302 or TownClerk@MansfieldCT.org. The hours of the Mansfield Town Hall are Monday – Wednesday 8:15 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Thursday 8:15 A.M. - 6:30 P.M., Friday 8:15 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.



Mansfield Historical Society

The Mansfield Historical Society

The Mansfield Historical Society was founded in 1957 and is located at 954 Storrs Road. They occupy two historic buildings, the 1843 Old Town Hall and the 1935 Town Office Building. From June through September, the museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30 to 4:30 P.M. for viewing of the current year's exhibits. Research appointments may be scheduled throughout the year by calling 860-429-6575 or emailing to mansfieldhistorical@snet.net. MHS has a number of books and other publications available for purchase on the history of the Town of Mansfield and some of its villages. The Edith Mason Library at the Mansfield Historical Society contains local, county and state histories, genealogies, old house files, family files, photographs, diaries, letters,

business records and artifacts.

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center was established in 1995 to honor Thomas Dodd's service as Executive Trial Counsel in the first of the Nuremberg War Trials in Germany following the end of World War II. Annually, the Thomas J. Dodd Prize in International Justice and Human Rights is awarded to a recipient who has made a significant contribution in those areas. Exhibits, presentations, film screenings and other events are held at the Dodd Center throughout the year.

The Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center include collections on Human Rights; Children's Literature; Alternative Press; Connecticut Business; Connecticut History and Culture; Connecticut Labor History; Connecticut Politics and Public Affairs; Ethnic Heritage and Immigration; Railroad History; Rare Books and Manuscripts; University of Connecticut History; and Vernacular African American Music.

The records of the Connecticut Soldiers' Orphans' Home are just one of the many collections that may be accessed in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. Digital Collections include the Daily Book of the Orphans' Home. The hours of the Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center are from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday through Friday. They are located on the University of Connecticut Campus at 405 Babbidge Road and may be contacted at 860-486-2524 or archives@uconn.edu.

The Connecticut State Library

Vital Records

The State Library did not create a Barbour Collection bound volume as Susan W. Dimock has previously published *Births, Baptisms Marriages and Deaths: From the Records of the Town and Churches in Mansfield, Connecticut, 1703-1850*. Entries in the Barbour Collection slip index referring to "vol. D" are to pages in Dimock's book, which is accessible online through hathitrust.org and archive.org.

The Library holds Mansfield vital records from 1693 to 1901 on microfilm. Access is also available through FamilySearch.org.

Land Records

The State Library holds Mansfield Land Records from 1712 to 1912 on microfilm. Access is also available at Family History Centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries.

Church Records

Mansfield First Church and Second Church (Storrs Congregational Church) records are on State Library microfilm reel 267 (LDS #0004884) and reel 561 (LDS #1010746). Access is also available at Family History Centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries.

Manuscripts at CSL include:

920 K 614 Kingsley, Luther (1775-1834). Journal for the Year 1719. Kingsley was Judge of Probate and Mansfield Town Clerk and Treasurer.

974.62 M35s Mansfield, Connecticut record of marriages 1817-1829 performed by and recorded by Zalmon Storrs, justice of the peace.

974.62 M35sto Storrs, Daniel Paddock, 1807-1887. [Scrapbook of Mansfield papers from the estate of the late Dan P. Storrs of Mansfield Centre], 1707-1893. Includes layouts of highways and land, maps, surveys, deeds, agreements, letters, circulars, and lottery tickets. The older papers were most likely the property of Thomas Storrs, Town Clerk.

974.62 T575b Tolland and Mansfield, Conn. Baptist Church records, 1807-1826.

State Archives Record Groups include:

RG 062:078, Town of Mansfield Records. Includes tax abstracts, 1819-1872, lists of electors, freemen admitted, and vote returns, 1821-1910; voter lists, 1860-1910, and more.

RG 074:005, Storrs Family Genealogical Collection. This Record Group includes correspondence 1912-1958 and minutes from annual reunions, 1911-1958. It also includes genealogical papers of Frank H. Storrs including family group sheets, 1921-1925, correspondence, 1900-1927, and notes on the Storrs and allied families.

Sources:

Barbour, John Warner. *Connecticut Historical Collections*. Storrs, Conn.: Bibliopola Press, 1999. A facsimile reprint. Originally published and sold at New Haven by John W. Warner and at Hartford by A. Willard in 1836.

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Larned, Ellen D. *History of Windham County, Connecticut*. Westminster, Maryland: Heritage Books, 2008.

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Mansfield Historical Society Website: <http://www.mansfieldct-history.org/>.

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“Peter Tork,” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Tork.

Smith, Roberta K., *Listen to the Echoes, The Early History of Spring Hill*. [Mansfield, Conn.], Mansfield Historical Society, Second Edition, 2004.

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Telephone Interview with Mansfield Historical Society Museum Director Ann Galonska.

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Wheeler, Richard Anson. *History of the Town of Stonington, County of New London, Connecticut, from its First Settlement in 1649 to 1900*. Baltimore: Clearfield Co., 1993.

“Wilbur Lucius Cross,” <https://museumofcthistory.org/2015/08/wilbur-lucius-cross/>

Photos by Keith E. Wilson

LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST OCTOBER 2020

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

Entry Rules

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033
Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118
Telephone Number: 860-569-0002 / Email Address: csginc@csginc.org

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST

Grand Prize of \$500 is awarded to the overall best publication

Two First Prizes of \$250 each may be awarded for the best in each of the remaining two categories

Categories: "Genealogy & Family History," "Genealogical Resource," and "DNA & Technology."

1. The Contest opens March 1, 2020 and Entries must be received in CSG's Office by July 15, 2020.
2. Entry Categories are:
 - a. Genealogy & Family History: Begins with someone in the past and moves forward in time through his/her descendants or begins with a contemporary person (living or deceased) and covers his/her ancestors, usually in one or more direct lines.
 - b. Genealogical Resource: Might include cemetery abstracts, compilations, court records, specialized vital records data, etc.)
 - c. DNA & Technology (new this year): Covers topics in DNA and other technology advancements related to or assisting in genealogical research.
3. Entries must have been published after 2014 and have some relevance to Connecticut and/or New England.
4. An Entry Fee of \$20 and TWO copies of the publication must be submitted with each Entry Form. One copy will be added to the CSG Library and the other usually donated to the Connecticut State Library. On the Entry Form, the author may designate one copy to be donated elsewhere or be returned instead.
5. Entry is open to anyone except CSG staff, the current/sitting CSG Board of Governors and their immediate families. Membership in CSG or Connecticut residency is NOT required to enter.
6. Submit completed Entry Form to CSG at the mailing address above.
7. Photocopies of the Entry Form are welcomed.

Entries will be evaluated on a variety of criteria including, but not limited to the following: relevance of title, format (logical, readable, interesting arrangement); sentence structure; grammar; and presentation (spelling counts and typographical errors are noted). All entries should include title page, table of contents, index (Name & Place where applicable), and page numbers. Where applicable, evaluation will also be based on the following: overall presentation, numbering system (was it easy to follow); quality of references; bibliography; and narrative. Books should be bound (both hardcover and softcover are accepted. Spiral-bound accepted).

CDs are acceptable entries; however, all non-paper entries must have a fully searchable and easy-to-follow names index with page numbers. A searchable place index is also encouraged. All entries will be retained in our library and available for research. The second copy, unless specifically requested to be returned to the entrant, will be offered to the CT State Library. Content on CD entries must be in a commonly used format. PDF is preferred.

**Winning entries will be formally announced at CSG's Annual Family History Seminar in October.
Winners will be notified by September 1, 2020. See page 18 for entry form.**

Entry Form For

**LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST OCTOBER 2020
THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST**

Sponsored by

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

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Please Print or Type

Title of Publication

Category (Circle one): GENEALOGY & FAMILY HISTORY RESOURCE PUBLICATION OR
DNA & TECHNOLOGY

(Note: CSG reserves the right to reclassify Category)

Author's/Authors' Name(s)

Year of Publication

Address(es) (including PO Box(es) if applicable)

Date Submitted

Town/City, State, Zip+4

Purchase Price

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail Address(es)

CSG Member Number(s) (if applicable)

Name(s) of Person(s) Submitting This Entry [if different from Author(s)]

Address(es) (including PO Box(es) if applicable) Town/City, State, Zip+4

Telephone Number(s) E-mail Address(es) CSG Member Number(s) (if applicable)

Publisher

Publisher Address(es) (including PO Box(es) (if applicable) Town/City, State, Zip+4

Publisher Telephone Number(s) E-mail Address(es) Contact Person

Please indicate disposition of second copy after contest (circle one): Donate to Connecticut State Library

Donate To _____ or Return to author

PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS ENTRY FORM ARE WELCOMED

**CSG LITERARY AWARDS OCTOBER 2020
NINTH ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST
“TELL ME YOUR FAMILY STORY”**

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033
Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118
Telephone Number: 860-569-0002 / Email Address: csginc@csginc.org

OPEN TO ALL

THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$100!

ENTRY RULES

1. Entry is **open to anyone** except for CSG staff and current/sitting CSG Board of Governors or immediate family thereof. Membership in CSG or Connecticut residency is **NOT** required.
2. **Contest opens March 1, 2020. All entries must be received in CSG’s Office by July 15, 2020.**
3. Essay must have some relevance to New England (including at least one of the six states which are: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont).
4. Essays must be well written, not more than ten pages, double-spaced and typed. Supporting documentation may be included if available but will not be counted as part of the essay’s text.
5. **TWO** paper copies of the essay (which will not be returned), including supporting documentation, must be submitted with each Entry Form. If submitting copies of supporting documentation, please include for **both** essay copies. If selected to be published, an electronic copy in Microsoft Word format will be required.
6. Submit completed Entry Form to CSG at the mailing address above. Entries may be hand-delivered. **We cannot accept emailed entries.**
7. Photocopies of the Entry Form are welcome.
8. Currently there is no entry fee!

Essays may include family stories; oral histories; genealogy-related blog entries, excerpts from an ancestor’s journal/diary; transcriptions of Bible records or cemetery markers; family histories/traditions and socio-economic background surrounding/affecting an ancestor. Each essay should include how it pertains to its author. Genealogical summaries should be easy to follow. Essay writers are encouraged to use their imagination when deciding on topics. Please bear in mind that essays must have some relevance to New England (see #3 above).

Essays will be evaluated on a variety of criteria, including but not limited to: the relevance of the title page; page numbers (important); format (logical, readable, interesting narrative or arrangement); New England content (this is of paramount importance); spelling (this counts); sentence structure; grammar and presentation. All entries will be permanently retained in the CSG Library and will be available to anyone who visits. The winner and selected entries may be published in Connecticut Genealogy News magazine. Authors are asked to sign the Copyright and Ownership Conditions on the entry form.

**Winning entries will be formally announced at CSG’s Annual Family History Seminar in October.
Winners will be notified by September 1, 2020. See page 20 for entry form.**

Entry Form

LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST OCTOBER 2020

NINTH ANNUAL

“TELL ME YOUR FAMILY STORY”

ESSAY CONTEST

THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

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Please Print or Type

Date Submitted: _____

Title of Essay: _____

Written by: _____

Are you a CSG Member? _____ If yes, CSG Member Number: _____

Address: _____

Town/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address: _____

Where/How did you learn of this contest? _____

Copyright and Ownership conditions: Selected essays may be published in *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Authors agree by their submission to grant CSG perpetual non-exclusive right to edit and publish. This includes the right to publish on the Internet, store on electronic media and to republish and/or extract for future CSG use. Authors retain the copyrights to their specific works and can republish or reuse their material without limitation.

Author Acceptance: I have read and accept the above copyright and ownership conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

We encourage you to photocopy this Entry Form and pass it on.

Donors

Thank you to all who have so generously donated to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. If you do not see your name here, it will appear in the next issue.

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09928 Sharon D. Clark
07851 William C. Sullivan

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Anonymous
Anonymous
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19358 Fred G. Baker
08581 John W. Bates
12419 Elsie L. Brady-West
16700 Carol N. Burke
16870 Jeannine L. Dickey
01819 David P. Gibbs
09725 Charles Grabs
18718 Jack M. Hefin
18152 Stephen L. Jackson
18520 Harriet Jassil
12683 Rick Larson
In Memory of Maybrit Runyon
20470 Robert A. Morgewicz
13236 Janet Pestey
20396 Celia J. Pfister
18485 Catherine Pillsbury
20104 Lawrence Shliessmann
12714 Patricia N. Taylor
18513 Terence D. Thompson
12666 Linda M. Warman
04186 Keith W. Wilson

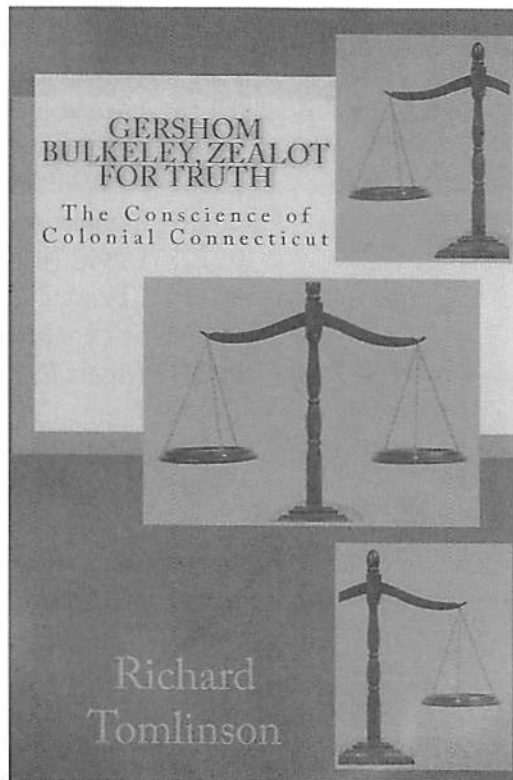
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18962 Rita M. Barredo
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15274 Edith Lillie Bartley
20394 Bernard F. Bentley
13015 Mary E. Blake
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